The Rt. Hon. Edward Heath, M.B.E., M.P.

HOUSE OF COMMONS

28 November 1990

Dear Mr Azzam

Mr Heath has asked me to thank you for your recent letter about his visit to the Gulf and to apologise for the delay in replying.

Mr Heath is most grateful to you for taking the trouble to write and much appreciates your support.

E Taylor

pp Robert Vaudry
Private Secretary

Mr Salem Azzam

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

13 November 1990

The Rt Hon Edward Heath MBE MP
House of Commons
London SW1A OAA

Dear Mr Heath,

Thank you for your Private Secretary's letter of 9 November. I must admit to disappointment at this reply.

You are an eminent statesman known throughout the world.You are aware of the complexities behind the present crisis in the Gulf and you understand both the background and the consequences of different lines of action. You have spoken your mind openly and clearly, and your stand to try to stop current events ending in a terrible war has been deeply appreciated .

There is no doubt that the outbreak of war is a real probability and I request you to rethink your reply to my letter of 5 November. Your stand for a negotiated settlement of the crisis would be strengthened if it were backed by the voices of other world statesmen coming together and, I think, those responsible for the crucial decisions to be made would be bound to take account of a consensus of such experienced and well-informed opinion.

I personally consider you to be the man to lead this movement for peace. I understand of course the numerous calls on your time, but I most strongly disagree that 'time constraints' should stand in the way of an opportunity of this nature,which concerns nothing less than war or peace and is a matter currently preoccupying the minds of all governments as well as the man in the street. Indeed, I venture to suggest that it is your duty to call the meeting I have proposed in the interests of peace, and I pray that you will reconsider.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General

16 Grosvenor Crescent London SW1 7EP Telephone 01-235 9832 Telex 894240 Islami G Cables ISLAMIAH

From: The Private Office of The Rt Hon Edward Heath MBE MP

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

9th November 1990

Dear Mr Azzam

Mr Heath has asked me to thank you for your fax of 5th November regarding his recent visit to the Gulf.

He is most grateful to you for writing and thanks you for your support. Regretably due to time constraints he feels unable to comply with your request to call a meeting of important personalities to discuss peace in the Gulf.

I am sorry to send this necessarily disappointing reply but trust you will understand his position. Mr Heath will naturally be in touch with the Islamic Council should he require and further information or assistance.

Yours sincerely

Robert Vaudry
Private Secretary

Mr Salem Azzam
Secretary General
Islamic Council
16 Grosvenor Cresent
LONDON SW1 7EP

المجلس الإسلامي
Islamic Council

5 November 1990

The Rt Hon Mr Edward Heath,MP
Houe of Commons
London SW1

Dear Mr Heath,

On behalf of the Islamic Council, and on my own behalf, I wish to extend to you our warmest congratulations on the success of your recent mission to Baghdad and the powerful case you made for the use of diplomacy rather than military force to resolve the Gulf crisis. The distinctions you drew between appeasement and the resolution of a problem, and your firm stand in favour of diplomacy, has made many ponder solutions other than the military option, which would surely cause terrible death and destruction and widespread economic recession.

Your advocacy of peaceful means in the face of all those clamouring for a bellicose strategy has once again emphasised your stature as a world statesman of great vision and compassion.

Allow me, Mr Heath, to suggest that you call a meeting of important personalities, who share your views on the issue, from various parts of the world. Such a meeting, held under your chairmanship, could make a valuable and important contribution to peace in the Gulf.

I take this opportunity to enclose for your information a copy of a letter which I addressed to President George Bush concerning the views of the Arab and Islamic peoples on the Gulf crisis.

Before concluding, I wish to say that the Islamic Council is at your disposal for any further information or assistance that you might require in this connexion.
With kind regards

Yours sincerely,

Salem Azzam

Salem Azzam
Secretary General and former Saudi Arabian Ambassador

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